

To all Permanent Delegations and
Observers to UNESCO

Cc: National Commissions for UNESCO

31 January 2023

**The Assistant Director-General
for Priority Africa and External Relations**

Ref: CPE/PBM/2023/004

Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the Director-General, I am pleased to hereby launch the 2025 **Call for Applications for UNESCO World Book Capital** (WBC).

The International Authors Forum (IAF), the European and International Booksellers Federation (EIBF), the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), and the International Publishers Association (IPA) are associated with this initiative and are therefore represented on the Advisory Committee alongside UNESCO.

Each year, the Advisory Committee submits to the Director-General of UNESCO its proposals for cities to be designated as World Book Capital for a one-year period, effective each 23 April, on the occasion of World Book and Copyright Day. The city of Accra (Ghana) has been designated as World Book Capital 2023 and the city of Strasbourg (France) as World Book Capital 2024.

All applications must be submitted to the UNESCO Secretariat in English or French no later than Sunday 16 April 2023 using the [new on-line application form](#).

To successfully carry out this call, we need your assistance to encourage cities or municipalities to submit their applications.

The application form as well as the application guidelines are available online at the following website: <https://www.unesco.org/en/world-book-capital-network>

For any further information, you may wish to contact Mr Ian Denison, Senior Communications Officer in UNESCO's Division for Communications and Public Engagement (i.denison@unesco.org).

I thank you for your collaboration and support for this initiative.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration

Yours sincerely,


Firmin Edouard Matoko